



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

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June 26, 1996

Mr. Ralph Draudson, President
California Striped Bass Association
P.O. Box 591
Bethel Island, CA 94511

Dear Mr. Draudson:

This is in response to your letter of April 29, 1996 regarding pen-rearing of striped bass. You expressed concern at the choice of words in our description of one CALFED action: "conduct net-pen rearing of striped bass for about 100,000 fish to supplant natural production." In particular, you were concerned that the word *supplant* suggested that the program intended to do away with natural production of striped bass in the system.

It is our intention that this action would focus on net-pen rearing of fish made available as a result of salvage operations at water project facilities. Rearing of these fish would increase their survival to adulthood. This action would help to replace natural production and survival that is no longer occurring as successfully as it once did.

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program has consistently recognized the important recreational value of striped bass in the system. We believe that many of the actions taken as a result of our efforts will improve conditions for striped bass. Our problem and objective statements, developed as the first step in our Program, mention striped bass at least ten times. One of our objectives states that we intend to "Increase populations of economically important species." In addition, the striped bass policy of the Fish and Game Commission specifically mentions pen-rearing of fish salvaged from water project fish screens.

We will incorporate your suggestion to replace the word *supplant* with the word *supplement* when we describe this action.

Thank you for your interest in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. If you have any additional questions or comments regarding the Program, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Dick Daniel, Assistant Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Enclosure

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service